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CHRONICLE

AT THE BUREAU OF THE DEPARTMENT OF BIOLOGICAL SCIENCES

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## CHRONICLE

### AT THE BUREAU OF THE DEPARTMENT OF BIOLOGICAL SCIENCES

/Following is the translation of a section entitled "Khronika: v Byuro Otdeleniya Biologicheskikh Nauk" (English version above) in Izvestiya Akademii Nauk SSSR, Seriya Biologicheskaya (News of the Academy of Sciences of USSR, Biological Series), 1959, pages 950-952./

At a meeting of the Bureau of the Department of Biological Sciences (OBN) on 7 April 1959, the problem of a coordination plan of the work of OBN and the All-Union Academy of Agricultural Sciences im. Lenin (VASKhNIL) was discussed. The following decisions were adopted:

1. To include the representatives of VASKhNIL and of its scientific institutions into the composition of Scientific Councils on Problems.
2. To request VASKhNIL to include into the composition of its Council on Coordination of Scientific

Research a permanent representative of OBN of the Academy of Sciences of USSR and to request the Presidium of the Academy of Sciences of USSR to include a permanent representative of VASKhNIL into the Council on Coordination of the Academy of Sciences of USSR.

3. To invite the representatives of VASKhNIL to the meetings of the Bureau of OBN on all problems where coordinating communication with VASKhNIL is necessary. At the same time, to request VASKhNIL to invite representatives of the Bureau of OBN of the Academy of Sciences of USSR to the meetings of the Presidium and of the Bureau of the Departments of VASKhNIL on problems where coordination with OBN of the Academy of Sciences of USSR is necessary.

4. To conduct, as in the past years, every year in common with VASKhNIL scientific sessions with Affiliates of the Academy of Sciences of USSR and with the Academies of Sciences of the Union Republics.

5. To work out <sup>plans,</sup> in common with VASKhNIL, for complex and individual scientific investigations and to conduct work on them jointly.

6. To determine, in common with VASKhNIL, the theoretical problems which should be the object of work

by the academy institutes and which will become a theoretical basis for scientific investigations of agricultural scientific institutions.

7. To come to an understanding with VASKhNIL as to the conducting of joint scientific research work at the experiment bases of VASKhNIL, and as to the using of these bases for the preliminary trial of works executed by the individual institutions of OBN and designed for introduction into practice.

8. To request the Presidium of the Academy of Sciences of USSR to charge the Council on Coordination with working out, in common with OBN, of proposals as to the coordination of work of the republican academies of sciences with the academies of agricultural sciences of the respective Union Republics.

9. To recommend to the affiliates of the Academy of Sciences of USSR to work out proposals on coordination and carrying out of joint work with agricultural, scientific and educational institutions.

At a meeting of the Bureau of OBN on 14 April, the problem of "Improvement of the Organization of Introduction into the National Economy of the Completed Scien-

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tific Research Works" was discussed. The following decisions were adopted:

I. To consider as one of the most important tasks of OBN of the Academy of Sciences of USSR the problems of the interconnection of biological sciences with the practice of national economy and of introduction of the results of the completed scientific research directly into production in the field of agriculture, industry and public health.

II. To impose upon the scientific institutions of OBN and biological periodicals of the Academy of Sciences of USSR the duty:

a) To intensify the propaganda of the achievements of Soviet and foreign science, to publish systematically the materials on the results of research being introduced into the national economy and to emphasize the successes and failures of the introduction of economically beneficial recommendations into production;

b) to increase, in accordance with instructions of the Presidium of the Academy of Sciences of USSR, the publication with an ample number of copies of scientific-popular booklets, instructions and methodical directions containing recommendations for production.

III. To request the institutions of OBN of the Academy of Sciences of USSR:

a) to accept authors' reports on completed research pertaining to industry, agriculture, public health and culture only when accompanied with a plan of measures to be taken for introducing the results of the research into practice; in the proposals being recommended for realization in production, the expected economical effect of their introduction, the organizations involved and the time within which the realization is supposed to be accomplished, should be indicated;

b) in order to verify the recommendations worked out, to establish business relations with agricultural, medical and cultural-educational institutions ensuring, if need may be, the collaboration as coauthors of persons taking direct part in the realization of the recommended proposals.

To supplement the realization plan of 1959 by appropriate additions, viz.:

c) to set apart the means for carrying out the experimental-industrial tasks; to treat the scientific-organizational activity of realization of the results of research as equal to scientific-research work and to free

the scientific workers for the time of realization of projects from carrying out the current scientific-research work; to devise measures for accelerating the introduction into production of schemes comprised in the realization plan of 1959, as well as for accelerating the time of the carrying out of the verification of the completed scientific research; to set apart the major portion of the prize fund for awarding premiums to workers who are successfully accomplishing the realization of the tasks; to develop concrete forms of relationship between the institutions and production (with ministries, councils of national economy, industrial enterprises, kolkhozes, sovkhozes, clinics, etc.), for example, to conclude agreements with the scientific research institutes of VASKhNIL and the Academy of Medical Sciences of USSR for using their experimental bases.

IV. To consider the following as an urgent task of the Bureau of OBN:

1. The rendering of everyday aid to the institutions of OBN as to the establishment of contacts with the ministries, councils of national economy, VASKhNIL and its institutions, and academies of sciences of Union Republics;

2. The rendering of practical aid to the affili-

ates of the Academy of Sciences of USSR in their work for the introduction into practice of the achievements of science.

3. The bringing about<sup>of</sup> actual control of fulfillment by the institutions of OBN of the realization plan;

4. To pay particular attention to control of the realization of large-scale tasks and carrying out of the necessary measures with respect to them:

1) Introduction into farming practice of the ultraviolet irradiation of animals.

a) To ask the Ministry of Agriculture of USSR to extend its control to the realization of this scheme in farming.

b) To charge the Institute of Biophysics (Director - Corresponding Member of the Academy of Medical Sciences of USSR G.M.Frank) to report in May of this year to the Bureau of OBN on the program of further research on the use of ultraviolet irradiation in farming.

2) Technique of thermal intravital disinfection from pebrine of the industrial graine ("silk-seed") of the mulberry silkworm.

a) To impose the duty upon the Institute of Animal Morphology imeni A.N.Severtsov (Director - Corresponding Member of the Academy of Sciences of USSR G.K.Khrush-

chov) to submit to the OSK a project of the plan for the change-over of all the grain plants to a new technique of the disinfection of grain from pebrine.

b) To propose to the councils of ministers of the silk-producing Union Republics (Tadzhik, Georgian, Uzbek, Kirgiz, Azerbaydzhan, Turkmen, and Armenian SSR) to employ in the grain plants a new, simpler and cheaper method for the control of pebrine developed at the Academy of Sciences.

3) Vegetable tanning agents.

a) To propose to the Botanical Institute and to the Main Botanical Garden to complete in 1959 the testing of vegetable tanning materials and to develop a plan for the creation of industrial plantations of the new tanning agents.

b) To request the corresponding councils of national economy (upon the presentation of plans by the Botanical Institute and the Main Botanical Garden) to lay the basis for the industrial plantations of vegetable tanning agents in 1960.

4) Change of microclimatic conditions on tea plantations by means of a special rain installation.

a) To charge the Institute of Plant Physiology

imeni K.A.Timiryazev (Director - Academician A.L.Kursanov) to work out and submit to OBN (in November of this year) a plan for the wide-scale introduction of this scheme into the agriculture of Azerbaydzhan and Georgian SSR (taking into account the results of this year's research).

b) To recommend to the councils of national economy of Azerbaydzhan and Georgian SSR a plan of measures to be taken for introduction into agricultural production of the technique pertaining to the "Change of Microclimatic Conditions on Tea Plantations".

5) Inhibition of the sprouting of edible potato tubers by means of the preparation M-2.

To request the State Planning Commission (Gosplan) to ensure the ubiquitous application of the preparation M-1 [sic] - June 1959.

6) Use of vitamin B<sub>12</sub> in animal husbandry.

a) To charge the Institute of Biochemistry imeni A.N.Bakh (Director - Academician A.I.Oparin) to work out and submit to OBN a plan of measures to be taken for accelerating the production of vitamin B<sub>12</sub> for the needs of animal husbandry - May 1959.

b) To request Gosplan of USSR to accelerate the production of vitamin B<sub>12</sub> for animal husbandry - June 1959.

7) Industrial production of yeasts with an increased ergosterol content.

a) To charge the Institute of Microbiology (Director - Corresponding Member of the Academy of Sciences of USSR A.A.Imshenetskiy) to work out and submit to OBN a plan of the measures to be taken for organizing the industrial production of yeasts with an increased ergosterol content - May 1959.

b) To intercede with the Moscow City Council of National Economy in regard to the production of yeasts with an increased ergosterol content - June 1959.

8) Introduction into agricultural practice of the method for greening out of seed potato.

9) Introduction into agriculture of new high-protein varieties of wheat.

To hear at the Bureau of OBN the reports of Academician B.V.Tsitsin on the introduction of the given results of work under consideration into agricultural production, and to devise measures to aid their realization - May-June 1959.

10) Control of soil erosion.

To charge the Soil Institute imeni V.V.Dokuchaev (Director - Academician I.V.Tyurin) to work out and

submit to OBN a project of measures for soil erosion control - May 1959.

11) Melioration of solonetz soils under irrigated conditions by a complex method.

To charge the Soil Institute imeni V.V.Dokuchaev (Director - Academician I.V.Tyurin ) to work out and submit to OBN a project of the plan of melioration of solonetz soils in Stalingradskaya and Rostovskaya Oblasts, and Kalmytskaya ASSR - May-June 1959.

V. To hear, periodically, at the Bureau of OBN the reports of the institutions of OBN on the progress of the introduction into production of the completed scientific research. To hear in the II-III quarters the reports of the Institute of Microbiology on works being realized in 1959.

VI. To charge the Botanical Institute imeni V.L.Komarov (Director - Corresponding Member of the Academy of Sciences of USSR P.A.Baranov) with the task of working out and submitting to OBN within two months a plan of measures for widening and accelerating the completion of scientific research and experimental industrial studies on trace elements to satisfy the agricultural requirements.

VII. To request the Presidium of the Academy of

Sciences of USSR to render help for the realization of research works pertaining to the "Control of Soil Erosion" and "Melioration of Solonetz Soils under Irrigated Conditions by a Complex Method".

On 14 April 1959, a conference was held of the responsible editors of the biological journals with the participation of secretaries of party organizations. In the opening speech, N.M.Sisakyan emphasized that in the light of the extremely important tasks set forth by the 21st Congress of the CPSU in the field of ideological work, an enormous importance is acquired by the problems of the propagation of biological knowledge which have an immense significance for the world-outlook - in particular, those which pertain to antireligious and atheistic propaganda.

N.M.Sisakyan stressed the necessity of elucidation, in journals, of the tasks, resulting from decisions of the 21st Congress of the CPSU and of the General Meeting of the Academy of Sciences of USSR, in which it is necessary to give the generalization of the achievements not only of our science but also of those of world science. Another problem which has a vitally great importance is

the problem of realization of the results of research. The biological journals still treat these problems quite inadequately. The journals should not only present advanced experience, but also expose the existing shortcomings and expose the carriers of these shortcomings. By doing this, we would greatly promote the work of introduction of the achievements of biological science into the national economy.

It is imperative to pay serious attention to the elucidation, in the journals, of the work pertaining to the coordination of scientific research in the spirit of the decisions of the General Meeting of the Academy of Sciences of USSR.

The role of the editorial staff of the biological journals is very important as regards the organization of discussions based on the results of the experimental work. The scientific criticism must set forth a task of reinforcing materialistic positions in science.

Biological journals should accord attention to the generalization and propaganda of the decisions of the scientific meetings, conferences and congresses.

The discussion of problems pertaining to the specific biological normalcies and the role of physics and

chemistry in the knowledge of depth processes which are at the basis of the manifestations of these normalcies has great importance.

It is necessary to increase the requirements concerning manuscripts and to publish first the most actual works in the scientific and practical respect.

It is also necessary to manifest a more careful attitude towards authors working in the peripheral scientific institutions, in particular those from national Republics.

Articles reviewing the work of Soviet authors should be published more often and the achievements of scientists from the socialist camp more widely propagated.

The editorial staffs of biological journals should draw all the necessary conclusions from the correct practice indicated by the newspaper "Pravda" for the work of the editorial staff of the "Botanical Journal."

The report in which the analysis of the work of biological journals was given, was presented by Ye.N.Mishustin.

In the discussion of the questions raised participated: Kh.S.Koshtoyants, S.V.Zoni, Ye.N.Pavlovskiy, P.A.

Genkel', A.A.Shtakel'berg, G.N.Nikol'skiy, A.A.Imshenetskiy and V.A.Engel'gardt, who emphasized the timeliness of the conference and introduced a number of valuable proposals for the improvement of the work of editorial staffs of biological journals.

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At the meeting of the Bureau of OBN of 13 May 1959, the problem of the "Tasks of Scientific Societies Affiliated with OBN and Forms of Their Work in the Light of Decisions of the 21st Congress of CPSU" was discussed. A wide-range decision providing for a series of measures to be carried out towards the improvement of the work of scientific societies was adopted.

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